

DETAILED ACTION

- a. This action is taken in response to amendments and remarks filed on 7/8/2009.
- b. Claims 1, 7-11, 17-22, 24-25, and 27-28 (renumbered as 1-16) are allowed.

Information Disclosure Statement

The Information Disclosure Statement(s) received on July 8, 2009 is in compliance with provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the Information Disclosure Statement(s) are being considered by the examiner.

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone conversation with Applicant's attorney Daniel Ledesma (Reg. No. 57,181) on November 4, 2009.

Please enter the amendment filed on 7/8/2009 and further amend as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method for generating a list of candidate alternative spellings, comprising:

finding, among a plurality of pages, a first page that contains, in a body of the first page,

a link that indicates whose anchor text contains a first spelling that is also contained in a query that was entered by a user, wherein said link links to a second page;

comparing the first spelling with the spelling of terms within said second page in order to identify spellings that are similar to, but not exactly the same as, said first spelling, wherein the spelling of the terms is in the same language as the first spelling;

adding, to a list of candidate alternative spellings of said first spelling, one or more spellings within said second page that are spelled similar to, but not exactly the same as, said first spelling; [[and]]

generating a filtered list at least in part by filtering said list of candidate alternative spellings based on a comparison of (a) a first frequency of occurrences of said first spelling in said plurality of pages to (b) a second frequency of occurrences, in said plurality of pages, of a second spelling from said list of candidate alternative spellings;

conducting a search based on a query in which said first spelling has been replaced by a spelling from said filtered list but wherein query terms other than said first spelling remain as entered by said user; and

presenting, to said user, one or more results of said search;

wherein the steps of comparing, adding, and generating are performed by one or more computing devices.

2-6. (canceled)

7. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said first spelling comprises multiple words and wherein said second spelling comprises multiple words.
8. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein filtering said list of candidate alternative spellings further comprises:
in response to determining that said first frequency is greater than said second frequency,
removing said second spelling from said list of candidate alternative spellings.
9. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
filtering said list of candidate alternative spellings of said first spelling based on whether
said first spelling is a plural form of said second spelling.
10. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
filtering said list of candidate alternative spellings of said first spelling based on whether
said second spelling is a plural form of said first spelling.
11. (currently amended) A volatile or non-volatile computer-readable storage medium
carrying one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more
processors, causes the one or more processors to perform steps comprising:

finding, among a plurality of pages, a first page that contains, in a body of the first page,

a link that indicates whose anchor text contains a first spelling that is also contained in a query that was entered by a user, wherein said link links to a second page;

comparing the first spelling with the spelling of terms within said second page in order to identify spellings that are similar to, but not exactly the same as, said first spelling, wherein the spelling of the terms is in the same language as the first spelling;

adding, to a list of candidate alternative spellings of said first spelling, one or more spellings within said second page that are spelled similar to, but not exactly the same as, said first spelling; and

generating a filtered list at least in part by filtering said list of candidate alternative spellings based on a comparison of (a) a first frequency of occurrences of said first spelling in said plurality of pages to (b) a second frequency of occurrences, in said plurality of pages, of a second spelling from said list of candidate alternative spellings; and

conducting a search based on a query in which said first spelling has been replaced by a spelling from said filtered list but wherein query terms other than said first spelling remain as entered by said user; and

presenting, to said user, one or more results of said search.

17. (previously presented) The volatile or non-volatile computer-readable storage medium of Claim 11, wherein said first spelling comprises multiple words and wherein said second spelling comprises multiple words.
18. (previously presented) The volatile or non-volatile computer-readable storage medium of Claim 11, wherein filtering said list of candidate alternative spellings further comprises: in response to determining that said first frequency is greater than said second frequency, removing said second spelling from said list of candidate alternative spellings.-
19. (previously presented) The volatile or non-volatile computer-readable storage medium of Claim 11, wherein the steps further comprise: filtering said list of candidate alternative spellings of said first spelling based on whether said first spelling is a plural form of said second spelling.
20. (previously presented) The volatile or non-volatile computer-readable storage medium of Claim 11, wherein the steps further comprise: filtering said list of candidate alternative spellings of said first spelling based on whether said second spelling is a plural form of said first spelling.
21. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising: receiving, at a search engine, from said user, query terms that contain said first spelling.

22. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
presenting, to said user, one or more spellings from said filtered list.
23. (canceled)
24. (previously presented) The volatile or non-volatile computer-readable storage medium of
Claim 11, wherein the steps further comprise:
receiving, at a search engine, from said user, query terms that contain said first spelling.
25. (previously presented) The volatile or non-volatile computer-readable storage medium of
Claim 11, wherein the steps further comprise:
presenting, to said user, one or more spellings from said filtered list.
26. (canceled)
27. (new) A method for generating a list of candidate alternative spellings, comprising:
finding, among a plurality of pages, a first page that contains, in a body of the first page,
a link whose anchor text contains a first spelling that is also contained in a query
that was entered by a user, wherein said link links to a second page;
comparing the first spelling with the spelling of terms within said second page in order to
identify spellings that are similar to, but not exactly the same as, said first

spelling, wherein the spelling of the terms is in the same language as the first spelling;

adding, to a list of candidate alternative spellings of said first spelling, one or more spellings within said second page that are spelled similar to, but not exactly the same as, said first spelling;

generating a filtered list at least in part by filtering said list of candidate alternative spellings based on a comparison of (a) a first frequency of occurrences of said first spelling in said plurality of pages to (b) a second frequency of occurrences, in said plurality of pages, of a second spelling from said list of candidate alternative spellings;

presenting, to said user, one or more spellings from said filtered list;

wherein the steps of comparing, adding, and generating are performed by one or more computing devices.

28. (new) A volatile or non-volatile computer-readable storage medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform steps comprising:

finding, among a plurality of pages, a first page that contains, in a body of the first page, a link whose anchor text contains a first spelling that is also contained in a query that was entered by a user, wherein said link links to a second page;

comparing the first spelling with the spelling of terms within said second page in order to identify spellings that are similar to, but not exactly the same as, said first

spelling, wherein the spelling of the terms is in the same language as the first spelling; adding, to a list of candidate alternative spellings of said first spelling, one or more spellings within said second page that are spelled similar to, but not exactly the same as, said first spelling; and generating a filtered list at least in part by filtering said list of candidate alternative spellings based on a comparison of (a) a first frequency of occurrences of said first spelling in said plurality of pages to (b) a second frequency of occurrences, in said plurality of pages, of a second spelling from said list of candidate alternative spellings; and presenting, to said user, one or more spellings from said filtered list.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SHEW-FEN LIN whose telephone number is (571)272-2672. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain Alam can be reached on 571-272-3978. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Shew-Fen Lin /S. L./
Examiner, Art Unit 2166
November 5, 2009

/Hosain T Alam/
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